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SOCCER WORLD

THE VOICE OF
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

Vol. 10. No. 36.

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September 22, 1967.

Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

ARCH RIVALS CLASH IN

GRAND FINAL

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Third time lucky — that's what both
APIA and St. George fans want to believe
on Sunday.

The St. George fans will be hoping that their team, twice beaten by APIA in the Grand Final in the last three years, can finally reverse a most depressing trend — meek defeat whenever they meet APIA for high stakes.

The APIA fans will be looking for a third triumph in six Grand Final appearances.

There can be little doubt that Sunday's Grand Final will be the ideal climax to the competition season.

APIA and St. George have stood out from the rest of the field all year.

Despite APIA's overwhelmingly positive record against Saints over the years, St. George are in with a chance on Sunday. Saints have played themselves into form in recent weeks in contrast to their opponents' noticeable slump.

Past Grand Finals, however, have proved that previous form counts almost for nothing as Hakoah showed last year by downing the red-hot favorites, APIA.

APIA, a big match team, are always capable of lifting their game when playing for high stakes.

St. George, on the other hand, have proved often in the past an inability to rise to the occasion as some sort of a complex seems to get hold of them when a major success is in sight.

As in all Grand Finals, the first 30 minutes or so will be vital.

Saints' best hopes for victory lie in playing an open game, using their clever forwards to best advantage.

Close-marking, defensive tactics won't be enough to contain the APIA machine.

Big match temperament, steady nerves and physical fitness will undoubtedly be the deciding factors.

These attributes are APIA's par excellence and point to another Leichhardt victory, but if St. George leave their complexes back in the dressing-room, their stocks will zoom and one of the greatest Grand Finals in recent years may be the result.



JOHN GIACOMETTI



JOHN WARREN

SAINT GEORGE

1. Haffey
2. Isaac
3. Hillary
4. Schaefer
5. Morgan
6. Zuckerman
7. Price
8. Warren
9. McColgan
10. Cliss
11. Fernandez

Coach: Laurie Hegyes.

Reserves: N. Sokoloff,
H. Stegbauer, F. McCue.

Colors: Red and white
shirts, white shorts.

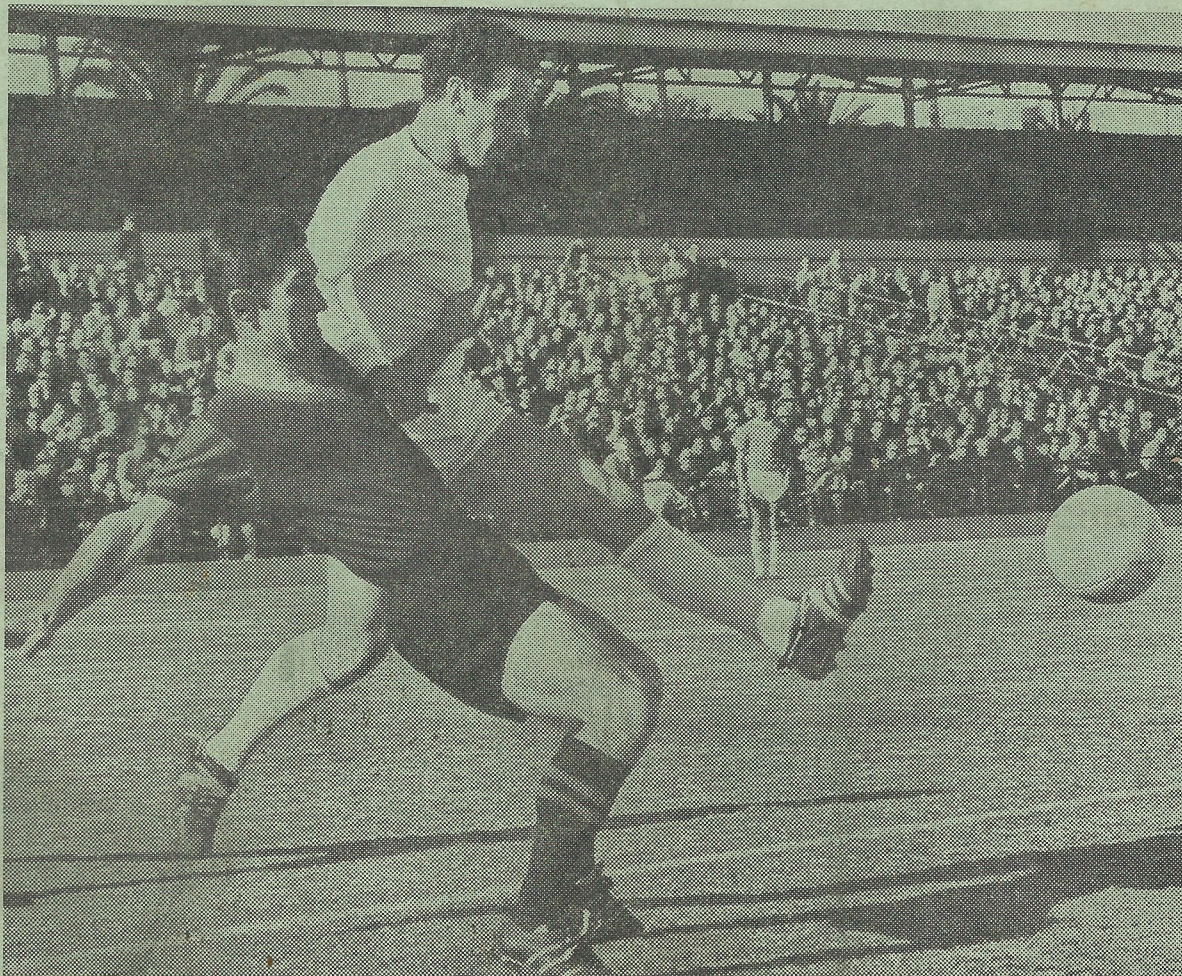
Coach: Mike Mazzina.

Reserves: W. Rorke, G.
McKinnon, G. Nuttall.

Colors: Maroon shirts,
white shorts.

A.P.I.A.

1. Taylor
2. Van Blerk
3. Ackerley
4. Hughes
5. Watkiss
6. Bottalico
7. Campbell
8. Campana
9. Blue
10. Kerklaan
11. Giacometti



McColgan of St. George (in white) wins this duel for possession with Croatia's Swoboda at the Sportsground last Sunday.

ALITALIA

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PLAYER CONTEST

COUPON NO. 29

The best player of the week was:

His club:

State:

READER CONTEST

SECTION 12.

1. The winner of the Victorian Dockerty Cup

Final will be

2. The runner-up of the Dockerty Cup Final

will be

3. The exact score of the Dockerty Cup Final

will be

20 points for each correct answer, but Nos 1 and 2 must be right to qualify for correct answer for No 3. Maximum possible: 60 points (20 points per correct answer).

MY SURNAME:

FIRST NAME:

FULL ADDRESS:

(Cut out here)

Conditions of the contest

1. All readers of SOCCER WORLD and LA FIAMMA are eligible to enter except employees and the immediate families of these and all metropolitan newspaper organisations in Australia.
2. All entries must be entered on coupons appearing in SOCCER WORLD and LA FIAMMA only. The coupons must be filled in and cut out, then sent to the address given below.
3. There is no limit to the number of entries provided they are all made on separate coupons.
4. There is no entry fee.
5. All coupons must be filled in legibly, preferably in ink and in printed letters.
6. No other writing is permitted on the coupons, thus any with comments, crossings and corrections will be destroyed.
7. The two Contests — PLAYERS and READERS — is conducted jointly though on separate coupons. In order to be eligible, you must fill in both coupons.
8. Entries that arrive after the announced closing date will not be considered.
9. All entries sent to this newspaper must bear this address: "Contest," SOCCER WORLD, Box 5061 GPO Sydney.
10. The Editorial Board of SOCCER WORLD and LA FIAMMA jointly act as judges in both Contests. Their decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Prizes and rules

First prize in the PLAYERS CONTEST will be two economy class return air tickets to Singapore by ALITALIA. The player receiving the largest number of votes in each State throughout the period of the Contest will enter the Finals. At the end of the Contest a draw will be made to determine the eventual winner who may not be the player receiving the largest absolute number of votes.

Each week SOCCER WORLD and LA FIAMMA will publish progress scores in the voting.

First prize in the READERS CONTEST will be one economy class return air ticket to Italy by ALITALIA.

The winner of this section will be the reader who accumulates the highest number of points throughout the various stages of the Contest.

For each section — the second appearing today — various points will be awarded. These, after the completion of each section, will be added up and tabulated, thus each reader's score will be carefully checked and kept. Progress standings will be periodically published in both SOCCER WORLD and LA FIAMMA.

● Closing date for Section 12: 1 p.m., Sunday, October 1, 1967.

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

The First Division round-robin this year attracted 32,900 spectators, for a weekly average of almost 11,000 per double-header. Last season 27,300 people watched the round-robin — an average of 9,100 per weekend. This season's improvement is undoubtedly due to Pan Hellenic's three-match appearance. Sunday's Grand Final needs only to draw 2,200 spectators to top 1966's total attendance for the premierships finals.

The St. George-Budapest team will be led onto the field on Sunday by the St. George MAJORETTES. In a bid to stir up interest in the St. George district, St. George-Budapest officials distributed billboards and posters advertising the Grand Final throughout the area this week.

JIM KELLY is due back on the South Coast on January 3. In a phone conversation with club officials last Saturday Kelly agreed to sign a one-year contract, with an option for another two seasons. South Coast hope to get a loan from the Woonona-Bulli Soccer Club Ltd. to meet Kelly's terms.

Sutherland's right back RATTENBURY broke his leg in the Second Division round-robin match against Manly last Saturday.

A former HUNGARIAN First Division player with coaching experience in Belgium and New Zealand is interested in offers from Australian clubs. As he is only 32,

Letter to the Editor

PRESS COVERAGE OF ASIAN TOUR

It will be very interesting to see the sort of coverage the Australian national team's Asian tour will receive in the daily newspapers.

I've noticed that just about every Sydney daily is sending a man on tour with the Rugby League team.

I'm most anxious to know what plans they've made to cover the Saigon Tournament, but, frankly, don't hold out much hope for an adequate coverage.

The Sydney Press apparently doesn't realize that the Saigon Tournament is far more important than a Rugby League tour to the North of England and the South of France.

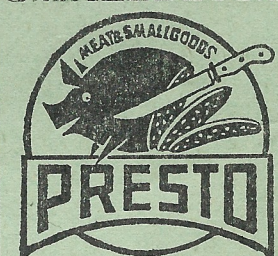
The League tourists, after all, will only be playing against obscure club teams, while the Australian soccer team will clash with the cream of Asian soccer.

The local Press obviously refuses to grasp the significance of our participation in the Saigon Tournament.

I'm afraid that if past "form" is a guide, the Australian public will be left very much in the dark during the Asian tour when, probably, only the bare results of matches will be published in between pages of Rugby League coverage.

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he can be contracted as player-coach. Write to: J. Benczik, P.O. Manner St., Wellington, New Zealand.

JIM BAYUTTI escaped uninjured last Saturday when a car sliced into his Mercedes, causing him damages estimated at \$1000.

SALVADOR ISAAC, the burly St. George-Budapest all-rounder will return to his native Argentina at the end of October, probably for good.

BARREL ORGAN wanted for hire for charity function. Ring 78-1321.

JOHN WARREN and JOHN WATKISS will appear on Channel 9's sports show on Saturday morning at approximately 10.45 a.m. They will discuss their teams' Grand Final prospects with compere Ron Casey.

Just to make their mouth water: former St. George-Budapest star GEORGE YARDLEY last week scored four goals for Tranmere against Shrewsbury — and missed a fifth when his penalty was saved.

JOHN KIRGAN, the Croatia player who substituted for Frank Cush last Sunday week, was not making his first appearance in the "big time" as one afternoon newspaper writer stated. Kirgan, as far back as 1964, made two first team appearances for Canterbury when they were playing in First Division.

Balgownie hope to sign BARRY SALISBURY as their coach next season as their present coach, Jim Harris, will leave them next year. Salisbury started his distinguished soccer career at Balgownie 12 years ago.

APIA and ST. GEORGE will play an exhibition match on Monday, October 2 in BATHURST as part of the city's Carillon Festival.

TOM GRIMSON, the ASF executive from NSW, is unlikely to accompany the Australian team to Asia for business and health reasons.

By beating Canterbury 7-2 in a deferred match last week, PRAGUE clinched the second grade championship, ahead of Croatia and Hakoah.

CONTEST CHECK

Next week we will publish results of Section 2 of the Alitalia-sponsored Readers' Contest dealing with the forecasts of the top four teams in five States.

In order to enable readers to check their coupons this is the final order of the first four in the States which appeared on our Section 2 entry form:

- NSW: 1. APIA, 2. St. George, 3. Croatia, 4. Pan Hellenic.
- Vic: 1. Melbourne, 2. Juventus, 3. Croatia, 4. Hellas.
- SA: 1. Juventus, 2. Hellas, 3. Polonia, 4. Croatia.
- Qld: 1. Latrobe, 2. Hellenic, 3. Hollandia, 4. Coalstars.
- WA: 1. Azzurri, 2. Cracovia, 3. Tricolore, 4. Swan Valley.

St. George reserve fullback ALAN WILLS is now a father of three boys. Meanwhile, team-mate NICK SOLOFF has three daughters. As both are keen to introduce some variety, they plan an exchange of know-how...

HANS DOEER, a German left winger from Voelklingen, made his debut for South Coast United against Prague last Sunday. Doeer, however, only played one half as he was obviously short of match play after remaining inactive for 18 months.

Bankstown's left-half, CLIFF McDERMOTT, announced his engagement last Saturday to Ann Danczuk of Panania. The engagement was celebrated at a party at the Bankstown Soccer Club Ltd., after the 'Towns' fine victory over Granville last Saturday evening.

PRAGUE's talented third grade side has been invited to play two matches in Melbourne this weekend. They will play against Slavia under-18s and a combined "South of the Yarra" under-18 XI.

South Coast's brilliant winger, DENNIS PATERSON, was married a fortnight ago. He missed last week's K.O. Cup match at Woonona as he was honeymooning. Paterson was a surprise selection in the preliminary Sydney section of the Australian squad, announced 10 days ago.

This week the St. George-Budapest players were the guests of ST. GEORGE LEAGUES CLUB for dinner — and a sauna bath.

SYDNEY PROGRAM

THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

GRAND FINALS

First Division: APIA v. St. George — Sportsground, 3 p.m.
Second Division: Bankstown v. Sutherland — Sportsground, 1.15 p.m.

Under-16s: Bankstown v. St. George, Sportsground, 11.45 a.m.

NEXT WEEKEND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

K.O. Cup semifinals — Wentworth Park, 1.15 and 3 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

K.O. Cup final — Wentworth Park, 3.00 p.m.

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VIETNAM IS NOT IDEAL FOR TALENT SCOUTING

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Of the 27 players hopefully nominated by the Sydney selectors for the Asian tour in November, at the most 12 should be considered.

Saigon is certainly not the place to experiment with players.

The tournament in the South Vietnamese capital will include the cream of non-Communist Asia, with a field almost as strong as at the Merdeka Tournament last month.

The tournament is too prestigious for Australia to field anything but our strongest team.

Give youth a chance by all means, with an eye to future international commitments, but not in Saigon which will mark Australia's official entry into Asian soccer.

The Australian squad of 19 should only include players who have made their mark in international football, particularly against Scotland or Manchester United earlier this year.

Towards the end of the Scottish tour the Australian national team reached good understanding, with some sort of a pattern emerging.

Most of the Australians proved themselves against the Scots, and it would be a crying shame if the experience gathered against Scotland went to waste and an almost new team selected to tour Asia.

Take a few young players on tour by all means, but only for the friendly matches in Thailand and Indonesia at the completion of the Saigon Tournament.

The bulk of the tourists, however, should be experienced players, capable of adapting themselves to the strange conditions in Vietnam, not untried youngsters launched into the big-time international atmosphere without adequate preparation.

The ASF would be well advised to accept the offer which arrived last week from New Caledonia to send a "B" or under-23 national team to Noumea in November for a triangular tournament between Australia, New Zealand

and New Caledonia.

Some of the young players nominated by the Sydney selectors for the Asian tour would fit that bill perfectly.

Let them play first against lesser opponents in the same age group in New Caledonia, rather than set them up against match-hardened Asian campaigners in Vietnam where every match will be a hard fought, bruising affair.

I would select these 12 Sydney players from the 27 nominated: Ackerley, Marnoch, Watkiss, Schaefer, Hughes, Westwater, Scheinflug, Warren, Baartz, Blue, Giles, Corry.

My Victorian members would be Rice, Cook, Abonyi and Vojtek, a brilliant

youngster who has been overlooked by the national selectors for too long.

From South Australia, goalie Romanowicz and young Juventus utility player Perin, and another player to come from Western Australia, Queensland or Newcastle, preferably the talented Queensland keeper Ross Kelly.

On current form my 19 Australian tourists, to be announced on October 19, barring injuries, would be: Ackerley, Marnoch, Watkiss, Schaefer, Hughes, Westwater, Scheinflug, Warren, Baartz, Blue, Giles and Corry (all NSW); Rice, Cook, Abonyi, Vojtek (Victoria); Romanowicz, Perin (South Aust.) and Kelly (Queensland).

SECOND DIV. REVIEW

UNITED EFFORT TO SAVE B'TOWN

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Today we begin to review the performances of Sydney Second Division teams — starting at the bottom.

Next week Lou Gautier will join in the fun and begin his review of First Division teams.

Blacktown, the 1967 season woodenspooners who finished with only three points to their credit, bowed out into the wilderness and the amateur ranks with one of the worst records ever, scoring only 16 goals and conceding 115.

During the season they managed to register only one win and one draw, losing the rest by big margins and playing some shocking football.

There was very little co-ordination in the side and on several occasions it was beaten by 10 and 12 goals.

The root of the trouble was mostly off the field as the management could never enforce its training rules, with the result that key players seldom bothered to train or even turn up for matches, while others deserted the side altogether.

Under these difficult conditions, the handful of dedicated men kept trying to do the impossible in rounding up 11 players to make an appearance every weekend.

There are plenty of talented youngsters in the Blacktown District where there is considerable following for the game, but there are too many small clubs all under different names and different management.

All these factions must realise that unless they unite and put one strong front together, Blacktown will perish not only from Second Division soccer but also from the amateur ranks.

Blacktown will still retain Francis Park and financially the club is stable.

Officials are hoping that this season's disaster will serve as a lesson that will bring together all interested parties with a view of forming one club even if it is to be under a new name.

For next season, the club's future is staked

around the Blacktown Spartans Junior Club whose under-16 side won the Nepean District Competition. It is hoped to keep this side together and reinforce it with about half a dozen experienced players still loyal to Blacktown and this moulding of youth and experience will form the nucleus of a strong side for next year.

The side will be coached by George Cousins.

But... the biggest and most important problem has yet to be solved — and that is how to get all the interested parties to realise that they must UNITE ALL THEIR RESOURCES if the Blacktown District is to prosper.

GRANVILLE'S GALA DAY

Threatening skies could not dampen the spirit and the full blaze of color at the successful Presentation Day celebration staged last Saturday by the Granville Districts Football Association at Macarthur Park.

The ceremony was held for the first time in the open air as it was impossible to find a hall big enough to accommodate both participants and spectators.

Competition and round-robin-winning teams from 19 clubs, totalling 1,250 juniors from the ages of under-7 to under-16, gathered at the Granville Baths from where they marched in crowd-lined streets to Macarthur Park.

At Macarthur Park, a crowd of 1,100 people awaited the juniors who came into the arena under their big and colorful banners and watched them being presented with the various cups, trophies, pennants, etc.

The most important trophy — the Argus Cup — was presented to the Guildford under-16 side who won both the competition and the round-robin tournament in their section. — Charles Spiteri

READERS' LETTERS

Changes suggested to halt decline

I would like to join your campaign to stir up people from their lethargy and revitalise soccer which, sad to say, is declining in this country.

I am convinced that the poor physical condition of most players and, through that, the patchy standard of matches is the main cause for our troubles.

As I can't see much hope for the immediate introduction of full professionalism, which would undoubtedly raise our playing standards, I would suggest the following changes:

1. Let's introduce the use of "substitute lines", the same as in ice hockey or basketball. Each team would be allowed to use 22 players — for the time being only in First Division.

This way the players could go flat out knowing that if they tire or get winded, the substitute will take over. Changing not one but all five forwards at every 20 or 30 minutes — as in basketball or ice hockey — would ensure that the players would stay fresh and fit and the match would not peter out in the second half.

2. Let us consider, once again along the lines of ice hockey, the possibility of "temporary expulsions".

As a referee I know — and my colleagues will agree with me — that quite often during a match one hesitates to send off a player. Was his "crime" serious enough? Will this ruin the match? These are the two main questions one has in mind — and often the guilty player escapes with a caution.

But if we could send them off for a limited period — 10 minutes, 30 minutes, one half or until the next goal, as in water polo — it would be more possible to match crime with punishment more precisely.

Some may think these suggestions are too far-fetched.

But keep in mind that sports where such rules are part and parcel of the game, are not losing any of their crowd appeal.

As for FIFA's possible disapproval, let's disregard it during an experimental period.

There is no reason on earth why Australia couldn't start something new which may later spread all over the world.

NICOLAS SZEGO
Ex-FIFA referee,
Queanbeyan, NSW.

District clubs

I feel soccer will not show any worthwhile progress until it is possible for everybody interested to have a club with which he can identify himself.

At present we have a situation far from this and the obvious problem is how to move from the actual to the ideal without upsetting financial arrangements, playing strengths and losing existing club support.

The lead given by St. George-Budapest in integrating itself with local interests could well be followed by other national clubs.

The report that Yugal is planning a similar move is heartening — but the news that Melita is seeking an inner suburban ground is not, as it would only add to the overcrowding of clubs close to the city.

Each club should have a defined area within which it would be responsible for the development of soccer and within which it would become the club to which followers would automatically be drawn.

I assure you that those who want district football are not xenophobes, and I for one welcome everybody interested in the game.

Perhaps the term would be better levelled at the supporters of those national clubs who, in some cases, cater for

people of only one nationality.

District clubs in themselves may not solve the problems of soccer but could be a basis on which to build.

R. GREEN,
Wattle St.,
Peakhurst.

Bouncing back

Regrettably, I cannot agree with Mr. Pritchard's letter, "Bouncing Boys".

He shows little tolerance with small boys' inborn tendency of tossing, bouncing and playing with the ball entrusted to them for the purpose of handing it to players.

He must understand that our future stars cannot be denied the right of having practical exercise, be it even at the expense of the watching public.

As a matter of fact, I am convinced that this "at the sideline" or "behind-the-goal" exercise is attracting more and more the interest of spectators, especially at dull moments of the game, which are not too rare.

So let us encourage our brave ballboys, who should even be provided with extra balls (besides the three already used in first-class matches).

JOSEF ROBICSEK
Orr Street,
Bondi, NSW.

The pinching game

I admire your patience in letting a Sydney soccer "writer" get away with murder.

As you must have noticed, this chap — from a "quality" morning paper — brazenly lifts full stories from your pages and uses them in the next day or two under his own name!

And he doesn't even bother to rewrite it — often he pinches the lot verbatim — as he did last Saturday.

Isn't he supposed to get his own stories? Doesn't he get paid to do just that?

I just wonder if you intend to take any action.

F. HERZ,
Epping Rd.,
Epping.

● As long as daily newspaper reporters "pinch" our stories — and not vice versa — we feel we are doing a fair job. Which is more than can be said for every Tom, Dick and Terry. — Editor.

Young Saints march on

St. George under-16 team have become the only Metropolitan finalists to also win a State title, by beating Illawarra 1-0.

The week before they won the Metropolitan title, downing Bankstown, also 1-0.

On Sunday the St. George boys will play the early match to the Grand Finals at the Sports Ground, meeting Bankstown in the Inter-District final.

To celebrate their fine season, the youngsters were invited to the St. George-Budapest Club for dinner last Sunday week.

Coach John Hedison is obviously grooming some talented youngsters who, soon perhaps, will don the St. George-Budapest jersey.

Goalie Greg Barton, Harry Williams, Steve Dalton, Bob Gibbs, Derek Lewis, Ross Freer and skipper Peter Denman as well as the goal-strong Terry White are some of the stars of the team.

Triple control planned for Sydney soccer

First Division clubs in Sydney this week decided on the five men to take charge of soccer's top management in NSW.

They are Jim Bayutti, Tom Grimson, Arthur George, Sam Fisman and Alec Pongrass.

Surprisingly, Frank Parsons missed out by two votes while current president, Dr. Gaston Bauer, received only a solitary vote.

The idea is to elect these five into a newly-formed management committee, mainly to deal with policy and development matters.

The affairs of the First Division clubs — competitions, fixtures, finance and even

disputes — will be controlled by the 12 clubs themselves, meeting weekly or fortnightly.

The same principle applies to the Second Division clubs, who would also look after their own affairs by holding regular meetings.

By and large, the five-man "junta" would have no control over either division.

The clubs have appointed three men to specify the tasks and jurisdiction of the executive.

It has also been decided to appoint a full-time promotion officer to work with secretary Aulden Brown.

So far the only name mentioned has been the Federation's first secretary, Eddie Princi, now a pilot with a charter air service.

Several clubs were strongly against a plan to merely elect the five men and hand over all power to them, and the setting up of two separate committees to deal with First and Second Divisions is clearly a compromise.

The decision reached by the First Division clubs after four lengthy meetings is most disappointing and is almost a return to tribal days.

It is doubtful if this will be a step in the right direction as our archaic management system, instead of being streamlined, may become more cumbersome than ever.

It also remains to be seen whether the five proposed executives — all men of considerable ability and action — would be prepared to serve chiefly as figureheads.

Going by their recent attitude to the need for urgent reforms, at least two of the five executive-elects are likely to decline the appointment.

— Paul Dean

Rovers win big Cup

The Robertson Cup, symbol of supremacy for the best under-21 club team in the State has been retained by Rovers for the second year in succession.

Rovers defeated Marrickville 6-1, Belmore 4-2 and Cabramatta Athletic 6-1 in elimination rounds and Granville Waratahs 5-4 in the Metropolitan Final and proved to be far too strong for the Country Champions, Berkeley United, by scoring 5 goals to 1 in the Trophy Final.

The following Sunday, Rovers further strengthened their claims to being accepted as Federation Amateurs by annexing the Sutherland Shire All-Age Premiership with a 5-3 victory over Cronulla.

Rovers are now looking to the "Champion of Champions" Inter District Knockout Competition for the chance to complete a fantastic "treble" for the 1967 season.

THE FIRE OF YOUTH HAS SINGED APIA

— By ALAN SPEERS —

If APIA's form against Pan Hellenic were taken seriously, there would be few takers of the short odds on offer about their chances of winning this week's Grand Final.

But taking into account the fact that they had nothing to gain from exerting themselves, the result is hardly likely to merit more than scant consideration.

APIA, frankly, played poorly; they played at times as if on crutches.

And, if only Pan Hellenic had only taken their chances in the first half, they would almost certainly have won.

Sixteen-year-old Howard celebrated his first team debut with a well-taken goal in the 11th minute.

But it was slightly built Paul Vrolyks, son of Pan Hellenic coach, Bill, who really impressed with his sensitive ball control, mature distribution and work "off the ball."

If only he were a stone heavier!

The first half belonged, almost entirely, to Pan Hellenic.

After Howard's goal, Smith missed with a header after escaping, for a moment, Watkiss' attentions, then Blitz hit the post with a shot which deceived Taylor.

With Westwater, of the boundless energy, commanding midfield, they could — and should — have had at least two more goals.

But — and it seems there is always a but with Pan Hellenic — half time came with the score still only 1-0.

On resuming, Giacometti was gone, replaced on the right wing by Nuttall; an indication, perhaps, that APIA were not greatly concerned by the result of the match.

Nuttall, looking very fit after his long absence from the first team, did well in his strange role. And with his appearance, things began to look up for the Australia Cup holders.

Slowly, Hughes and Bottalico began to win more of midfield, and it was obvious Pan Hellenic's first half fire was cooling.



ARCHIE BLUE

In the 56th minute, Blue equalised — but the goal was Campana's.

Seizing on a loose ball in the Pan Hellenic goalmouth, he calmly placed it at the feet of the on-rushing Blue, when probably every other forward in Sydney soccer would have blazed away himself.

Campana was easily the pick of the APIA forward line, while in defence Watkiss again played with that almost studied air of indifference.

Taylor, in goal, demonstrated once again how much improvement he has made since joining APIA; improvement which can be laid at the door of self-confidence.

FINAL ROUND-ROBIN TABLE

APIA	2	1	—	5	1	5
St. George	2	—	1	4	3	4
Croatia	1	—	2	1	3	2
Pan Hellenic	—	1	2	2	5	1

WARREN'S HEAD PUTS SAINTS IN GRAND FINAL

— By PAUL DEAN —

The blunder of blunders— this is the most fitting way to describe Croatia's inexplicable defensive attitude towards a match they simply had to win.

This was soccer suicide of the first order, compared to which the Kamikazes had a 50-50 chance of survival.

Just what Croatia hoped to achieve with their bolted down and packed defence and without an attack may remain an eternal mystery.

They knew they had to win to reach the Grand Final; they knew they had to score at least one lousy goal to stand a chance.

And yet, for some reason, they subjugated themselves to a most ill-advised and ill-conceived plan, defending stoutly with up to seven or eight men and clearly going for a draw.

A draw, mind you, which would have eliminated them anyway...

During the entire 90 minutes not once they did look menacing enough to threaten Haffey's goal and they cannot possibly recall one single lost opportunity for scoring.

They had none and they didn't even seem eager to create one.

Much to their credit, St. George-Budapest — for whom a draw would have been sufficient — earnestly tried to make a match of this agony.

They attacked just about non-stop, eager to score and drive home their very clear superiority.

However, if the match as such failed as a spectacle — as undoubtedly it did — Croatia can take the blame for it.

In the entire play-off series they scored one measly goal, in the very first minute of their first match, after a huge defensive goof — and then went through the rest of the

169 minutes sterile as a maternity ward.

It's quite clear now that Croatia must revise their scant knowledge of the 4-3-3 system — otherwise next season they will drive even their own fans over to rugby or lacrosse.

But enough said about the losers; how about the winners?



FRANK HAFFEY

St. George fought well and tried every trick they know to pierce through the Croatia blanket-defence.

However, for most of the match they were plainly struggling, mainly because of the indifferent form of Cliss and Fernandez and the sub-par display of McColgan and Stegbauer.

Still, through the fearless tackles of Schaefer, the interceptions of the ever-improving Morgan and the delicate, thoughtful distribution of Zuckerman, St. George dominated the midfield.

Their forwards had a feast of the ball and it looked odds-on that sooner or later they would crack one in.

Once they did just that, even the most ardent Croatia supporters must have realised that the match was over.

It was only in the last 10 minutes that the Saints really gained the upper hand and had the opportunity of increasing their lead — but even absolute sitters were bungled in front of the goal.

Croatia, let it be stated here clearly, played with only 10 men for some 35 minutes, with Sloan a passenger on the right wing.

However, it wasn't the Croatia defence that failed them but the attack and it is highly questionable whether without Sloan's injury the result would have been different.

Few players gave really good displays.

Croatia's 'keeper Ron Corry, however, was the best man on view; but for his agility and anticipation, the Saints would have won by about three goals.

In St. George the whole defence proved reliable, without any weak spots; Hillary's improvement was quite noticeable.

In their forward line only Warren moved with the slickness of an international; his chipped, sliced header was a classic goal.

In Croatia, Lincoln, Shepherd, and occasionally Giles stood out.

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Friday/Saturday, September 22-23.

Bunny Gibson, TV pop vocalist, with the Soccer House Caballeros.

Sunday, September 24.

Grand Final Night, featuring a variety performance by popular St. George-Budapest goalkeeper, Frank Haffey.

Monday/Tuesday, September 25-26.

Free nights.

Wednesday, September 27.

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7.30 p.m. — Games Night, with prizes.

Coming attractions:

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WATKISS IN HIS 7TH COMP. GRAND FINAL

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Pat Hughes and Filippo Bottalico have played in every one of APIA's Grand Finals since 1963, and Sunday will mark their fifth consecutive appearance in a Grand Final.

John Watkiss, however, has the best Grand Final appearance record of any of the 22 players who will take the field on Sunday.

The Australian international star has six Grand Finals to his credit.

Watkiss appeared in the 1958, 1960 and 1961 Grand Finals with Canterbury, and was a member of APIA's team in 1964, 1965 and 1966.

Ackerley, Van Blerk and Giacometti were already in the APIA side in the 1964 Grand Final and will be taking part in their fourth Grand Final in a row.

Of APIA's defence in the 1964 Grand Final against St. George only two players will be missing on Sunday: goalkeeper Iglesias and centre-half Murua.

St. George's Grand Final "veterans" are Herbert Stegbauer and Tibor Zuckerman, both of whom were in the team which lost the

1962 Grand Final 2-4 to Hakoah.

Stegbauer may be appearing in his fourth Grand Final, Zuckerman in his third as he missed the 1965 match through injury. Fernandez, Warren and Schaefer will also make their third appearances.

This is how APIA and St. George-Budapest lined up in their past Grand Final appearances (goal-scorers in brackets):

● APIA

1963 (0-4 v. South Coast): Iglesias; Sambrook, Murua; Jaros, Marston, Hughes; Ihaksi, McKellar, Baumgartner, Wong, Giacometti.

1964 (7-2 v. St. George): Iglesias; Van Blerk, Ackerley; Hughes (own goal), Murua, Bottalico; Falconer, Giacometti (1), Watkiss (5), Wong (1), Jaros.

1965 (2-0 v. St. George): Roberts; Van Blerk, Ackerley; Hughes, Sambrook,

Bottalico; McKinnon, Campana, Watkiss (1), Wong (1), Giacometti.

1966 (1-2 v. Hakoah): Rorke; Van Blerk, Ackerley; Hughes, Sambrook, Bottalico; Giacometti (1), Campana, Watkiss, Blue, Kerklaan.

● ST. GEORGE

1962 (2-4 v. Hakoah): Grosz; Stegbauer, Gergely; Kangyar, Banicevic, Zuckerman; Medina (1), Massey, Pompor, Hetherington (1), Schauman.

1964 (2-7 v. APIA): Clarke; Stegbauer, Zuckerman; Schaefer, Banicevic, Rodriguez; Stokes, Warren, Galambos (1), Fernandez, Heredia.

1965 (0-2 v. APIA): Haffey; Stegbauer, Hillary; Schaefer, Banicevic, Lang; D. Todd, Warren, Rodriguez, Yardley, Fernandez.

John Watkiss does not only hold the record for Grand Final appearances.

In 1964, against St. George-Budapest, he achieved the memorable feat of scoring five of APIA's seven goals.

In 1965 he scored again, also against the Saints, with Johnny Wong the other scorer for APIA.

While playing for Canterbury in the 1961 Grand

Final, Watkiss notched the Berries' "consolation" goal in their 4-1 defeat by Hakoah.

With seven goals to his credit, APIA's current centre-half has scored more Grand Final goals than any other Federation player.

Jaros and Ninaus, with three goals each, are a long way behind the Australian international's tally.

PAST RESULTS FAVOR APIA

COMPETITION MATCHES:

1959: 4-0, 6-2.
1960: 2-1, 3-3.
1961: 3-0, 2-2.
1962: 2-5, 1-2.
1963: 2-2, 5-3.
1964: 4-2, 1-2.
1965: 2-4, 3-1.
1966: 1-1, 3-0.
1967: 0-0, 4-1.

Total: 18-9-5-4, 48:31.

OTHER MATCHES:

Ascot Cup, 1960: 1-2.
Ampol Cup, 1960: 2-5.
Ampol Cup, 1962: 2-0.
Craven Cup, 1962: 3-1.
Final, 1964: 0-3.
Grand Final, 1964: 7-2.
Ampol Cup, 1964: 2-1.
Aust. Cup, 1964: 1-1.
Aust. Cup, 1964: 4-1.
Grand Final, 1965: 2-0.
Fed. Cup, 1965: 4-2.
Final play-off, 1966: 3-2.
Fed. Cup, 1966: 3-2.
Aust. Cup, 1966: 2-1.
Ampol Cup, 1967: 1-3.
Final play-off, 1967: 2-0.
Total: 16-11-1-4, 39:26.

Grand Total: 34-20-6-8, 87:57.

(All results and totals from APIA's angle).



APIA's Nuttall (left) and Hignett of Pan Hellenic appear to be groping for an invisible ball in this incident of last Sunday's drawn (1-1) round-robin match.

SUMMARIES

APIA (1): Taylor 4; Van Blerk 3, Ackerley 4; Hughes 3, Watkiss 5, Bottalico 3; Campbell 3, Campana 4, Blue 3, Kerklaan 3, Giacometti 3 (Nuttall 3).

Total: 38.

Coach: M. Mazzina.

Pan Hellenic (1): Clarke 4; Mallard 3, Hignett 4; Westwater 4, Johnson 4, McCulloch 3; Blitz 4, Vrolyks 4, Smith 3, Bardetta 3 (Byles 3), Howard 3.

Total: 39.

Coach: W. Vrolyks.

Scorers: Howard 11th minute; Blue 56th minute.

Referee: H. Parsons.

St. George (1): Haffey 4; Isaac 4, Hillary 4; Schaefer 4, Morgan 4, Zuckerman 4; Stegbauer 2, Warren 4, McCollan 2, Cliss 3, Fernandez 3.

Total: 38.

Coach: L. Hegyes.

Croatia (0): Corry 5; Lincoln 4, Sloan 1 (injured); Woods 4, Curry 4, Shepherd 4; Reynolds 2, Tomicic 2, R. Cush 3, Giles 3, Swoboda 2.

Total: 34.

Coach: F. Hearn.

Scorer: Warren 69th min.

Referee: A. Boskovic.

Crowd: 7,600 (double-header).

PREVIOUS GRAND FINALS

1957: Auburn 4, Canterbury 3. (Crowd: 8,450)

1958: Canterbury 2, Auburn 1. (Crowd: 8,800)

1959: Prague 3, APIA 2. (Crowd: 12,500)

1960: Canterbury 5, Prague 2. (Crowd: 17,500)

1961: Hakoah 4, Canterbury 1. (Crowd: 18,500)

1962: Hakoah 4, St. George 2. (Crowd: 26,770)

1963: South Coast 4, APIA 0. (Crowd: 30,150)

1964: APIA 7, St. George 2. (Crowd: 22,300)

1965: APIA 2, St. George 0. (Crowd: 9,700)

1966: Hakoah 2, APIA 1. (Crowd: 7,800)

Boskovic's record

Referee Tony Boskovic will set a Federation record on Sunday when he will be in charge of his fifth consecutive Grand Final.

Boskovic has refereed every Grand Final since South Coast v. APIA in 1963, when he made his "big time" debut.

Boskovic said this week that his "hardest" Grand Final was the 1964 one

when APIA defeated St. George 7-2 in a sensational match.

He rates last year's Hakoah-APIA match as another "very tough" Grand Final.

In his opinion the "easiest" one he had to handle was his first, in 1963, when South Coast thrashed APIA 4-0.

He also thinks this match produced the best soccer of any Grand Final he has refereed.

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congratulates APIA and St. George-Budapest for qualifying for the 1967 Grand Final.

- ★ Members, supporters and friends are invited every Saturday and Sunday to the club dances at the Croatia Social Club, 47-49 Buckingham Street, Sydney.



ROUND THE WORLD

Japan wants professionalism

A group of leading Japanese businessmen is visiting the United States to study the American professional set-up. Soccer is catching on like wildfire in Japan and there are moves afoot to launch a professional league, on the American model, by importing foreign players. The Japanese pros, however, will be affiliated with the FA, and operate with official blessing. Amateur soccer in Japan these days outdraws baseball, which has been considered the national game since the end of the war.

Mexico shows the way

ASF, please take note. The Mexican FA, heartily fed up with the holiday mood of under-strength touring teams which are flooding the country, has adopted a get-tough policy. As from this month only teams who field at least eight of their regular first graders will be accepted. Contracts with foreign teams will stipulate they must arrive in Mexico at least three days prior to their first match, and the tourists won't be paid in full if they appear to be "strolling". Since 1965 no less than 31 teams have visited Mexico, but only a handful have come with a full complement of players.

Eggleston leaves Everton

Tommy Eggleston has given up the post of chief coach of Everton to become the new manager of Mansfield Town in succession to Tommy Cummings, now in charge of Aston Villa. A qualified FA coach, Eggleston went to Everton from Sheffield Wednesday when manager Harry Catterick changed clubs. The post at Mansfield is Eggleston's first managerial position. Eggleston toured Australia with Everton in 1964.

Italy out of Olympics

Italy have pulled out of the Olympic qualifying rounds. The decision was announced in Rome last week in a joint communique by the Italian Olympic Committee's Signor Onesti and newly-appointed president of the Italian FA, Artemio Franchi. Italy also pulled out of the 1964 Olympics, for the same reason: their players are not true amateurs in accordance with the strict Olympic definition.

Lucky toss wins final

The final of the Mediterranean Games soccer tournament between France and Italy was decided on the toss of a coin. The teams drew 0-0 after extra-time in the final played in Tunis. After 120 minutes the Tunisian referee flipped a coin and the luck of the spin gave Italy the gold medal. Spain won the bronze medal.



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2KY ITALIAN MELODIES 2KY
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Bobby Smith, the former Tottenham and England centre-forward, may soon return to professional ranks. The 33-year-old Smith, after three seasons in minor leagues, is now training with Chelsea at Stamford Bridge. There is no chance, however, of him joining Tommy Docherty, but Leyton Orient, the Third Division club, may sign him up once he sheds more weight. Smith now weighs 14 stone.

● Bert Trautman, Manchester City's famous former German goalie, now coaching Preussen Munster, is writing his life story. Trautman is the only Continental player ever chosen as England's "Player of the Year."

● Ramos Delgado, Argentina's centre-half, has joined Santos for \$88,000. Botafogo are also after an Argentinian defender — the Atletico Madrid fullback, Griffa.

● For the first time a Second Division club has reached the semifinals of the Russian Cup. Sokol Saratov beat Torpedo Moscow, Kairai and Odessa on their way to the semis.

● VfB Stuttgart won't release their French international winger, Gilbert Gress, to the French national team, for the coming France v. West Germany international in West Berlin on September 27.

● Inter Milan wound up their preparation for the new Italian season with a 3-1 win over Barcelona at San Siro and a 7-0 victory over MTK Budapest.

● Marseille, the French club, have signed the Swedish international winger, Carlsson, who played with AIK Stockholm against the Australian national team in Hong Kong in November 1965.

● Hong Kong have now officially entered for the 1968 Olympic Games qualifying rounds and the 1970 World Cup eliminations.

● Helenio Herrera tips Mexico as the big danger in the next World Cup. Playing at home, in familiar surroundings, will be an added advantage for the Mexicans, who have also made fantastic progress in their play since 1966, according to the Inter coach, who spent a week in Mexico last month.

● Ferenc Puskas has received another tempting offer from the USA. Malcolm Woods, president of the San Francisco club, is now in Madrid negotiating with the former Real star to accept the post of player-coach.

● The Venezuelan FA have fined Platense, the Argentinian club, \$1,000, for inciting a riot during the recent Caracas Tournament. Platense's coach, former Argentinian international Labruna, is alleged to have provoked the crowd with obscene gestures.

● Five of the current First Division coaches in Spain are former Real Madrid players: Munoz (Real Madrid), Molowny (Las Palmas), Di Stefano (Elche), Rial (Pontevedra), Olsen (Zaragoza).

● Branko Kubala, Ladislav Kubala's teenage son, is back from America and will join Wacker Innsbruck, runners-up in the Austrian competition last season.

● Ercole Baldini, one of Italy's greatest cyclists, is among FC Napoli's largest shareholders. Baldini, a gold medallist at the Melbourne Olympics, may soon join Napoli's administrative staff.

● Werder Bremen are the oldest team in the West German Bundesliga. Their average age is 27 years and three months. Bayern Munchen have the youngest side. Their players' average age is only 23.

● Harry Bild, Feyenoord's Swedish international centre-forward has returned home. He now plays for Second Division Oster. A record crowd of 22,000 spectators turned up to see him make his debut a fortnight ago.

● Italy's opponents in 1967-68 will be Austria, Portugal, Russia, Wales, Sweden, Denmark, Bulgaria, Mexico and Argentina.

● Don Revie, Leeds' dynamic team manager, is likely to succeed Jimmy Hill at Coventry.

● A trio of Swiss referees will be in charge of the two Celtic v. Racing Buenos Aires Intercontinental Cup matches next month.

● West Germany may soon have a Second Division National League as well. When this competition comes into effect, probably in two years, the First Division Bundesliga will be reduced to 16 clubs.

● Everton have signed Wolverhampton's young inside-forward, Ernie Hunt, for \$30,000.

● Switzerland were beaten 2-0 by Munchen 1860 in a training match last week.

● Four days before brilliantly whipping Poland 4-1 in Warsaw last Sunday in a European Nations' Cup match, the French national team lost 1-2 against Danish club Odense.

● Yugoslav expatriates Justifi and Skoblar, now in Germany, will play for Yugoslavia against West Germany in the European Nations' Cup match at Frankfurt on October 7.

Bozsik quits Honved

Jozsef Bozsik has resigned as coach of Honved. Bozsik, a key member of the great Hungarian team of the 1950's, had been 30 years with the Army club and its predecessors, Kispest. He resigned two weeks ago following a series of disastrous defeats. Bozsik was rated the world's top halfback between 1950 and 1955, but was never very successful as a coach.

Peter Osgood returns

Now fully recovered from the broken leg which put him out of action for 10 months, Chelsea's brilliant centre-forward, Peter Osgood, seems headed for a berth in England's national team. Osgood, who toured Australia with Chelsea as a 17-year-old in 1965, scored two of the greatest goals ever seen at Stamford Bridge against Southampton recently. Manager Alf Ramsey was at the match and told pressmen Osgood would probably make his England debut before the end of the season.

Italians barred from USA

As a result of the riot which erupted during the recent Inter Milan-Santos game in New York, when Italian supporters invaded the pitch for 10 minutes, Italian teams in the future will only be allowed to play on American grounds surrounded by protective wiring. Cagliari, another Italian First Division team, have been barred from ever playing in the USA again. They are alleged to have provoked three riots on their recent American tours.

● The Hungarian national team beat Marseille 1-0 in a "warm-up" match in the great French sea port last Wednesday week.

● Yugoslavia is considering to apply for the 1982 World Cup.

SCOREBOARD

EUROPEAN NATIONS' CUP: Holland v. East Germany 1-0; Poland v. France 1-4.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Glentoran Belfast v. Benfica 1-1; Rapid Vienna v. Besiktas Istanbul 1-0.

EUROPEAN CUPWINNERS' CUP: Aberdeen v. Reykjavik 4-1; Steau Bucarest v. FK Austria 2-0.

FAIR CITIES' CUP: Atletico Madrid v. Vienna 5-2; Atletico Bilbao v. Frem Copenhagen 1-0; Bruges v. Sporting Lisbon 0-0; Bordeaux v. St. Patrick's Dublin 3-1; FC Liege v. PAOK Salonika 2-0; DOS Utrecht v. Zaragoza 3-2.

BELGIUM: Racing White v. Olympic Charleroi 3-1; Lierse v. Standard Liege 2-2; Malines v. Beveren Waas 1-2; Waregem v. Beerschot 0-0; Antwerp v. Daring 2-5; Liege v. Beringen 1-1; Sporting Charleroi v. Anderlecht 1-3; St. Trond v. Bruges 2-1.

HOLLAND: Telstar v. Go Ahead 2-1; DOS v. ADO 2-2; Feyenoord v. Fortuna 6-0;

YUGOSLAVIA: OFK Belgrade v. Maribor 2-0; Velez v. Red Star 0-0; Zeljeznica v. Hajduk 2-2; Olimpija v. Dinamo Zagreb 0-0; Vardar v. Vojvodina 2-1; Proleter v. Rijeka 3-0; Zagreb v. Rad-Benfica 0-3; Sporting Lisbon nicki 3-1; Partizan v. Sarajevo 0-0; Academica v. jevo 1-0.

PORTUGAL: Barreirense v. Benfica 0-3; Sporting Lisbon nicki 3-1; Partizan v. Sarajevo 0-0; Academica v. jevo 1-0.

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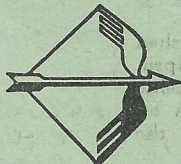
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SUNSHINE TAKES ITS TOLL AMONG ELITE

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

With Croatia going down to Hakoah, all the Victorian representatives for this year's Australia Cup have been eliminated from the Dockerty Cup.

Shock First Division team Sunshine City who disposed of State League champions Melbourne in the first round, continued their giant-killing act by disposing of Alexander to cause the upset of the quarter-finals.

At Olympic Park last Sunday the two games were a repeat of the previous week's; both had to go to extra-time with Slavia and Polonia still finishing level and booked to meet in a replay last Wednesday night.

Another upset?

In the other game, SM Hellas scrambled to a single goal win over Lions in the extra time.

The standard of play served up by all the State League clubs in the quarter-finals was sickening, to say the least.

The Federation must surely be aware that such insipid displays are one of the reasons for the marked decline in attendances.

The gallant Sunshine City are exempted from criticism.

They turned on a better show than all the other State League sides with plenty of enterprise, spirit and a will-to-win attitude.

The semi-finals of the Dockerty Cup, played at Olympic Park, are:

Slavia/Polonia v. Sunshine City (Saturday).

SM Hellas v. Hakoah (Sunday).

Slavia/Polonia v. Sunshine City: Unless either Slavia or Polonia, both past winners of the Dockerty Cup, pull up their socks and show a decided all-round improvement, Sunshine City could surprise them.

It may sound a joke to some, but Sunshine could win again and make the State League sides look even sicker than they are.

SM Hellas v. Hakoah: Still striving for their first cup success, SM Hellas will need to show a decided improvement after their form against Lions if they are to have any hope of getting into the final.

Hakoah, on the other hand, have nothing to shout about.

They are too inconsistent to be tipped as the winners.

This could be a hard and grim encounter, and despite the fact that they are stablemates at Middle Park, sentiment will be thrown overboard here.

1/4 FINAL RESULTS

Sunshine 2 (R. Pocock, B. Pocock), Alexander 1 (Racovalis); Hakoah 1 (Armstrong) Croatia 0; Slavia 1 (Raney) Polonia 1 (Cook, own goal); Hellas 1 (Nestorides — penalty in extra-time) Lions 0.

THESE ARE THE GIANT-KILLERS

This is the Sunshine City line-up which has taken the First Division side into the semifinals of the 1967 Dockerty Cup:

● Bill Johnston, goalkeeper who was formerly with the defunct Trident. Scottish.

● Scott Frew, right back. Scottish.

● Herbie Seenan, left back. Irish.

George Fontana, right half. Italian.

● Roy Cochrane, centre half. Scottish.

● Albert Seenan, left half. Irish.

● George Martin, outside right. Australian.

● Bobby Pocock, inside right. English.

● Ray Pocock, centre forward. English.

● Mick Bannigan, inside left. English.

● Johnny Harris, outside left. Scottish.

Coach: David McIntosh, former Hakoah and Victoria fullback. Scottish.

Sydney, hear this:

Your "honors" aren't worth fighting over

— SAYS BOB LOW

Producing figures to contrast a suggested superiority of NSW soccer over Victoria, colleague Lou Gautier has gone to extreme lengths which would shame even a top class mathematician.

And on almost all his counts I have no alternative but to agree with his statements.

However, he has kept to a restricted field in highlighting results, crowds, juniors etc. in a numerical fashion to emphasise why he considers Sydney soccer the undisputed kingpins in Australia.

I don't belong to any clan, clique or section of the Victorian soccer community, however large or small it may be, who considers that Melbourne is the hub of Australian soccer.

And by the same token I believe it's only because the Australian Soccer Federation is domiciled in Sydney that NSW is regarded as the kingpins of soccer in Australia, a view I don't subscribe to, unless I get more tangible proof than just a few facts and figures.

It's not altogether true, as Lou said, that the strength of soccer lies in overall results and attendances.

There are many more counts on which Australia's soccer progress can be gauged, such as:

OPPOSITION

While Sydney soccer has undoubtedly strong opposition from Rugby League, the fact remains that Melbourne has the greatest crowd-pulling football game in this country, Australian Rules, which presents Victorian soccer with the biggest headache of any competing sporting body.

GROUND

Melbourne is so far ahead of Sydney with Olympic Park, Middle Park, St. Kilda and Jubilee Park, all top class stadiums, that as far as the ground situation is concerned it's a complete "one-horse race."

PLAYERS

Despite the superiority of NSW, and its club sides in the Interstate and Australia Cup games to date, it must be emphasised that Victorian sides have relied entirely on their own imports and locally produced players for their successes.

On the other hand, for years now the NSW clubs, heavily armed with bulging wallets and cheque books, have raided the cream of the Melbourne players and induced them to shift across the border.

In the field of local juniors, I'm willing to bet that before the quota law came out in NSW, the State League clubs in Melbourne had as much junior content as the First Division sides in Sydney.

And this despite the fact Sydney can draw on 70,000 juniors compared with the trifling 7,000 at Melbourne's disposal.

Going a step further — and by the admission of Lou himself — the Victorian players gave every bit as good an account of themselves in the 1965 World Cup matches for Australia as those from NSW.

FINANCES

Whereas Melbourne clubs rely entirely on gate receipts to keep them solvent, this is not entirely so in Sydney, where social clubs with liquor licences and "one-arm bandits" considerably boost the revenue of a few.

I don't assert Victoria has any superiority in administration over NSW, nor do I consider they are inferior in any way.

And, overall, Australian soccer is so far behind world class in almost every aspect of the game that to call one State a kingpin is something which is certainly not an honor.

Not to those who know the set-up.

SA NOMINATES SIX PLAYERS

Last Saturday the SA selectors listed Romanowicz (Polonia), McColl, Perin and Herczeg (Juventus) and De Lyster and Pantelis (Hellas), as candidates for the Australian team.

They attended a training session on Tuesday night for the benefit of ASF advisory panelist, "Rags" Tatters (Queensland).

It is asking too much, however, to expect Tatters or anyone else to assess a player's national team potential on the strength of a training session.

LAUNCESTON UTD. IN AUST. CUP

Launceston United will represent Tasmania in the Australia Cup.

They beat Ulverstone 3-0 in the Tasmanian State premiership final at White City, Launceston.

MICIC WINS VIC. AWARD

Frank Micic, the brilliant wing half of JUST, who won the Argus Medal in 1964 and was runner-up in 1963, has again won Victoria's only remaining soccer player award.

The 26-year-old Micic, who has been a regular first team player with the Footscray side since he was 18 and who has represented Victoria on 30 occasions — more than any one else still playing — is also the skipper of his team.

FINAL WA TABLE

Azzurri	15	3	—	75	25	33
Cracovia	10	4	4	61	33	24
Tricolore	9	5	4	69	38	23
Cottesloe	7	4	7	40	43	18
Swan Valley	6	5	7	38	37	17
Windmills	5	5	8	32	41	15
Olympic	5	4	9	42	52	14
Swan Athletic	6	2	10	38	63	14
Perth City	6	1	11	30	58	13
Cockburn Utd.	4	1	13	29	67	9

FINAL QLD. TABLE

Latrobe	7	4	3	46	23	18
Hellenic	7	3	4	34	29	17
Hollandia	7	3	4	34	30	17
Coalstars	6	4	4	26	26	16
Grange-Thistle	6	3	5	20	18	15
Merton	5	4	5	49	31	14
St. Helens	4	—	10	20	36	8
Oxley	3	1	10	21	57	7

NEW RULE MAY AID S.A. TEAMS

South Australia's two Australia Cup candidates could enjoy an advantage when the "major" round begins.

This is because Adelaide teams are the only ones in Australia to have implemented the new FIFA rule which restricts goalkeepers to four steps before disposing of the ball.

The ruling was introduced in Adelaide on August 19 at the directive of the ASF.

The SAF adhered to the directive despite the fact that only two rounds remained to complete the league season.

It was naturally assumed here that the rule would be implemented nationally on the same date.

The first indication that other States were ignoring the rule came when SA

Youth team manager, Peter Nickolich, lodged a protest during the recent Australian championships in Sydney.

Alarmists predicted that the rule would cause chaos and confusion.

This hasn't been the case.

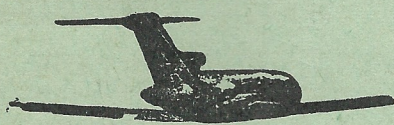
With goalkeepers unable to indulge in time-wasting tactics, the game has been speeded up and it has improved as a spectacle.

— A. Crisp

● Why NSW hasn't yet introduced the new rule seems a mystery and strengthens the old suspicion that we are still six independent States in search of a country.

— Editor

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CLASSIC FINAL FOR ADELAIDE

— From ALLAN CRISP in Adelaide —

Juventus and West Adelaide Hellas will meet in a classic Federation Cup final at Hindmarsh Stadium on Saturday.

Juventus and Hellas both came from behind to win their semifinals.

Hellas made heavy weather of their win over Victoria last week.

Juventus' performance in eliminating Polonia must be considered more meritorious.

Hellas ended last week's game with injuries to key forwards Tony Batchelor and "Mav" Kilishiri.

If both fail to respond to treatment, Hellas will be in trouble.

When Hellas thrashed Juventus 4-0 in April, former Glasgow Celtic winger Alec Byrne was on the left wing for the winners.

The return league fixture was a goalless draw with

Byrne then coach of Juventus.

Byrne's tactical clash with Irish international Tom Forde will spice this eagerly awaited final.

These talent-laden teams turned the league season into a two-horse race.

They are so evenly matched that it will be a surprise if extra-time is not required.

Both teams abound in skill but it may be left to temperament to decide the issue.

I have a slight leaning towards Juventus because of their better semifinal display.

ADELAIDE RESULTS

WA Hellas v. Victoria 2-1 (0-1). Scorers: Pantelis, De Lyster for Hellas; Wright for Victoria.

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SYDNEY SECOND DIVISION

"Underdogs" will clash for prestige

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Manly's run of successes was brought to a halt by a Sutherland team which never put a foot wrong throughout the whole round-robin match last Saturday.

Sutherland, who sneaked into the final play-offs on goal-average may well go on to topple Bankstown in the Grand Final next Sunday after this great performance.

Granville, second to Manly in the competition, finished last without a point in the play-offs when beaten 2-1 by Bankstown.

Early goal

In the early game last weekend, Granville started well when within 45 seconds from the start, Bill Shepherd broke through the Bankstown defence to score with a hard drive.

But this goal was more of an inspiration than a shock to Bankstown who equalised in the 14th minute.

Granville, with five reserves in their side, could

never match the might of Bankstown, but once again, poor finish in the forwards let them down.

Bankstown's winning goal came in the 62nd minute when Brack outpaced the Granville defence on the left wing, lobbed the ball to Stiffle on the other side of the field, who laid on a perfect pass for the on-rushing Bamforth to head home an easy goal.

Bankstown: Fiedl; Jamieson, Fitzgerald; McDermott, Hinksman, White; Madden, Tansley, Bamforth (2), Brack, Turnbull (Stiffle).

Granville: Sparkes; Anderson, Crelly; Bakks, White, Pendleton; Dupont, Day, W. Shepherd (1), O'Neill, Shepherd.

Sutherland pulled off the major upset of the round-robin by beating Manly in the late game.

Sutherland deserved the win as they were the better team all-round.

The pressure told on Manly, who had to play four games within a week, and Sutherland exploited Manly's weariness to the maximum.

Sutherland's defence contained the speedy Manly wingers to lead 1-0 at half time through a goal by Sam Cucitti in the 15th minute.

After the interval, Manly equalised through a goal by Harris, but conceded another goal soon after when O'Brien beat two defenders to score the best goal of the match for Sutherland.

Sutherland: Pines; Rattenbury, Watts; Shrubsole,

THEY HELPED NORTH SYDNEY

The players who contributed to North Sydney Inter's success this year are: George Arnott, Ray Bekkie, Jim Bogie, Tony Burke, Allen Cooney, Peter Impellizzeri, Alistair McIlroy, Stephen McKenna, Drago Markulin, Gerald Purcell (also coach), Robert Roberts, Bruno Spresian, Colin Suttie and Jack Wiffin. Those wishing to participate in the activities of the club are invited to ring the secretary, F. Leitner, 42-5836 after 7 p.m.

WITH THE AMATEURS INEXPLICABLE FRACAS MARRED THE SEASON

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

The full listing of Inter-Suburban honors for 1967 is:—

● First Division Premiers and Champions: North Sydney Inter.

● Demoted to Second Division: Lidcombe Waratah and Sydney University.

● Second Division Premiers: East Side M.T.K.

● Second Division Champions: Belmore.

● Demoted to Third Division: Granville All Stars and Liverpool Inter.

● Third Division Premiers and Champions: Enmore.

● Promoted to Second Division: Enmore and St. Marys.

On our calculations, Penrith held its position in Second Division by securing a goal average of .824 against All Stars' .823, who went down.

In a season which flowed so well, it is a pity that as a result of a fracas which is almost inexplicable at the All Stars-Guildford second grade match, All Stars officials V. J. Byrnes and Siley Horton have resigned.

O'Reilly, Griffiths; Bibbing, Roche (Davidson), O'Brien (1), Corfield, Cucitti (1).

Manly: Tuinman; McGrath, Brooks; Verrills, Campbell, G. Jones; Nutt, Harris (1), R. Jones (Hughes), Ridding, Waller.

THIS WEEKEND

Neither the Premiership winner nor the second place-getter will be appearing in the Second Division Grand Final at 1.15 p.m. at the Sportsground on Sunday.

But although Bankstown and Sutherland finished only third and fourth respectively, they deserve to contest the Grand Final as both teams have greatly improved in recent weeks.

Sutherland, now playing their best football of the season, should give Bankstown a hard match.

Bankstown, however, are at the peak of their form and appear to have the more dangerous attack.

Roger Bamforth, who scored all six goals for his team in the round-robin series, should lead Bankstown to a narrow Grand Final victory.

FINAL ROUND-ROBIN TABLE

Bankstown	2	1	—	6	4	5
Sutherland	2	—	1	7	6	4
Manly	1	1	1	5	3	3
Granville	—	—	—	3	3	8

K.O. CUP PREVIEW

CLOSE MATCHES ARE PREDICTED

Melita Eagles and Polonia should advance into the semifinals at Marks Field tonight, Wednesday, when they meet Canterbury and Yugal respectively.

Both matches, however, should be close and a win for the Berries or Yugal would be no real surprise.

Melita and Yugal have the advantage of having played in recent weeks, while Polonia and Canterbury, out of action for four weeks, may find it difficult to readjust.

Polonia, however, appear stronger than Yugal, especially in attack where they should win this match.

Six weeks ago Canterbury would have been favored to beat Melita Eagles, but our nod goes to the Eagles tonight.

Canterbury are going through a minor internal crisis which may affect their players' performances.

Probable teams tonight:

Melita Eagles: Eaton; Hunter, Arrighi; Cilia, Woods, Hewlett; Mullan, Bankhead, Mulqueaney, Reid, Williams.

Canterbury: Demopoulos; Whitehead, Mucillo; Hardy, Sambrook, Duggan; Rinos, Romanos, Hoare, Clarke, Jamieson.

Yugal: Petrou; Nacinovic, Crnich; Dunaj, Banicevic, Rafanelli; J. Alagich, M. Alagich, Halpin, Bobic, Lalic.

Polonia: Seymour; Filok, Cebula; Adamson, Nowacki, Komoder; Kulak, Minol, Baker, Krawiarz, Gonzales.

LAST WEEK'S GAMES

Melita v. Granville 2-1

Playing with five reserve graders, Granville had quite a good share of the ball but never really endangered Melita at any time during the match.

Goals by Azzopardi and Woods (penalty) put Melita ahead 2-0 after 44 minutes.

Granville tried much harder in the second half, but the solid Melita defence was in control until the 77th minute, when Burtonshaw broke through to beat Eaton with a well placed shot from close range.

Melita Eagles: Eaton; Hunter, Woods (1); Arrighi, Cilia, Hewlett; Stuart (Wynn), Bankhead, Azzopardi (1), Reid, Williams.

Granville: Sparkes; Anderson, Crelly; Pendleton,

Lorenzutta, Burtonshaw (1); Dupont, Day (Bakks), Williams, O'Neill, Shepherd.

Manly v. Cumberland 2-1

Manly's speed and robust tackling won the day against a slow Cumberland combination which included a few reserve graders.

Cumberland had no answer to the speedy and persistent Manly wingers who never stopped running.

Cumberland: Hopkins; Watt, Wall; Fernie, Richards, Thompson; Goldie (1), Moffatt, Edwards, Entwistle, Keenan, Vincent.

Manly: Tuinman; McGrath, Brooks; Verrills, Campbell, G. Jones; Nutt, Harris (1), R. Jones (1), Ridding, Waller.

Referee: J. Scarborough. Crowd: 800 (double-header).

Hakoah v. Manly 2-0

The leg-weary Manly were very impressive in the first half and should have led at the break at Woonona.

Hakoah only gained the upper hand late in the match after the first of Edmunds' opportunist goals.

Hakoah: Fuzes; Stewart, Hillsdon; Walsh (Harding), Marnoch, Yaager, Holden, Fekete, Baartz, Edmunds (2), Jones.

Manly: Tuinman; McGrath, Brooks; Verrills, Campbell, Freeman (R. Jones); Nutt, Harris, G. Jones, Ridding, Waller.

Referee: K. Lockrey.

Prague v. SCU 2-1

Prague were always in command and could have won by a much bigger margin.

Their wingers, Armytage and Hoggart, were outstanding.

Prague: King; Harcombe, Blacker; Rootsey, Zeman, Blanco; Armytage (1), Miner, G. Manuel (1), Scheinflug, Hoggart.

SCU: Nuell; Salisbury, Ringland; Davies, Barnes (1), Carr; Barnett, Tristram, Harrison, Freeme, Doer (Conlin).

Referee: N. Jones. Crowd: 763 (double-header).

Junior growth is quite phenomenal

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Historically, the great NSW junior soccer movement had its real beginnings largely in the difficulties of introducing the code in NSW schools.

The greater the difficulty in promoting soccer, the stronger the junior code became.

Eventually, junior soccer became so strong that no amount of activity could hold it as it surged through countless primary and secondary schools.

The 1967 season saw an unprecedented promotion of the rival Rugby League code in Press and other media, and yet junior, schools and amateur soccer reached heights that even the enthusiastic founders of the junior game had never envisaged.

Pioneers of the game, such as S. A. Jones, Andy Burton, H. G. Read, A. S. Tanner, W. Wilson, L. Wilson, W. Brackenbury and many others had laid a remarkably sound foundation, in adverse circumstances.

This year 72 High Schools entered the Tasman Cup, and dozens of others throughout NSW could be entering within the next year or two.

Some 3,172 teams entered in the competitions of 14 associations in Sydney.

This is an average entry of 226 teams per association a fantastic figure which no code can match or even get within coo-ee.

The range of junior competitions and championships is as remarkable as it is complete.

Published by Soccer World Publishing Co. Pty Ltd., and printed by New Life Printery Pty. Ltd., 54 Renwick Street, Marrickville, N.S.W.

Years ago, to the general public some codes were sold as British, but not soccer.

The excellent TV games from Britain buried those thoughts.

Today, the feeling is often given that soccer is un-Australian.

Yet almost countless thousands of Australian boys have turned to the game!

And so another fable is sure to crumble on the rocks of reality in the next year or so.

What code can boast of a State Championship with 34 unbroken years of history?

The State Championships first graced the field in 1934, when the under-14s first played.

The under-18s and 16s were added soon after, and today the widespread interest covers 12 grades, with more planned already.

Lou Gautier's appraisal of increasing native-born content in First Grade clubs has its own message.

Only last week, Pan Hellenic fielded Eddie Howard, Domenic Bardetta, Paul Vrolyks and Greg Byks; Croatia fielded Terry Woods at fullback, and young Waller was added to the State squad before Manly even kicked a ball in First Division.

The range of coaching now available is unprecedented, and with the powerful groups of young players coming through the lower grades of most top clubs, the groundwork has already been laid for a great deal more progress.

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